



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION SITUATIONAL INFORMATION REPORT

Criminal Activity Alert

San Francisco Field Office

30 June 2011

(U//LES) Takeover Robberies in North and East Bay, California are Tied to Carjacking Trend

(U//LES) In FY2010, the FBI San Francisco Division experienced an increase in carjacked vehicles by takeover robbery crews who later use the vehicles in a robbery.

(U//LES) The subjects' modus operandi is to steal the vehicle anywhere from 24-72 hours prior to the robbery. Once the robbery is committed, the subjects dump the stolen vehicle, and get into a second "getaway" vehicle. This method has been employed primarily for bank robberies, but robberies using carjacked vehicles have also occurred at restaurants and other business establishments.

(U//LES) Robbery incidences from January 2009 to April 2011 were reviewed. In that time frame, the greater San Francisco Bay Area has experienced 17 incidences where robberies were preceded by a carjacking, and the vehicle was used in the commission of the robbery.

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(U) Note: This product reflects the views of San Francisco, and has not been vetted by FBI Headquarters.

(U//LES) In 2009, there were six robbery incidences that were preceded by carjackings:

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2009				
Carjacking Location	Date	Robbery Location	Date	Location Name
Patterson	11 June 2009	Concord, CA	12 June 2009	Diablo Federal Credit Union
Richmond	12 June 2009	Pinole, CA	12 June 2009	7-11 Pinole
Benicia	29 July 2009	Pinole, CA	29 July 2009	7-11 Benicia
Benicia	29 July 2009	Benicia, CA	29 July 2009	NB Benicia Bridge Toll Plaza
Pittsburg	25 September 2009	Burlingame, CA	25 September 2009	US Bank
Richmond	17 December 2009	Vallejo, CA	17 December 2009	Carquinez Toll Booth

(U//LES) In 2009, two of the robberies occurring in the northwestern part of Contra Costa County involved the use of carjacked vehicles from Benicia and Richmond, which are cities adjacent to a Bay Area Toll Authority Structure. The Carquinez Bridge is utilized for east/west travel from Sacramento to Vallejo, Richmond, and San Pablo and on to San Francisco, and the Benicia Bridge is utilized for north/south travel from Sacramento, Fairfield, or Vallejo towards Benicia, Concord, and Martinez.

(U//LES) Movement of the carjacked vehicle from Richmond to Vallejo, as referenced in the 17 December robbery, or from Benicia to Pinole, as in the 29 July robbery, would require travel on either the Carquinez or the Benicia Bridge. Incidentally, two toll booth robberies have been identified as being committed by individuals in a vehicle that was later determined to be carjacked.

(U//LES) In 2010, there were nine robbery incidences that were preceded by carjackings:

2010				
Carjacking Location	Date	Robbery Location	Date	Location Name
Richmond	18 April 2010	American Canyon	19 April 2010	Bank of America
Richmond	4 June 2010	Vallejo	4 June 2010	Carquinez Toll Booth
Oakland	28 June 2010	Santa Rosa,	30 June 2010	US Bank
San Pablo	18 August 2010	Crockett	18 August 2010	Bank of the West
Oakland	18 August 2010	Cameron Park	19 August 2010	Wells Fargo
San Pablo	25 August 2010	Crockett	25 August 2010	Bank of the West
Vallejo	22 September 2010	Rohnert Park	29 September 2010	California State Credit Union
San Rafael	18 October 2010	Novato	20 October 2010	US Bank
Berkeley	13 December 2010	Pleasanton	14 December 2010	Union Bank

(U//LES) For 2011, there have been two known incidences of robberies preceded by carjackings:

2011				
Carjacking Location	Date	Robbery Location	Date	Location Name
Richmond	21 January 2011	Cotati	26 January 2011	Exchange Bank
Richmond	17 April 2011	Napa	27 April 2011	Westamerica Bank

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(U//LES) For all three reporting years, carjacking incidences are the most prevalent in the city of Richmond, which is located near the Alameda/Contra Costa County line in the northwest corridor of the East Bay. This is consistent with reporting from local law enforcement partners in the East Bay, who noted an increase in carjackings between Fall 2010 and early 2011.

(U//LES) It is recommended that law enforcement partners responding to carjackings in their jurisdiction, or other robberies with a similar modus operandi, follow this protocol:

- Contact the FBI San Francisco Division 24-hour switchboard at (415) 553-7400;
- Advise if the vehicle is known to be stolen or carjacked;
- Determine if a FasTrak toll tag is present on the vehicle that was stolen. If so, determine the FasTrak toll tag number;
- Continued liaison with the Traffic Management Center at CalTrans is recommended in order to help identify if a carjacked vehicle has passed through one of the seven San Francisco Bay Area bridge toll plazas.

(U//LES) This report has been prepared by the San Francisco Division of the FBI. Comments and queries may be addressed to the San Francisco Field Intelligence Group at (415) 553-7400.

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Dated: 30 June 2011 _____

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1. The product increased my knowledge of an issue or topic. (Check one)

- ___5. Strongly Agree
- ___4. Somewhat Agree
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- ___2. Somewhat Disagree
- ___1. Strongly Disagree

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Comments (if any):
